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ADDRESS

Before the Berkshire Agricultural Society, October 2, 1845.

BY HON. ASAHEL FOOTE, JR.

In view of the necessarily protracted exercises of the occasion, I presume that I shall have your pardon, if, waiving the ceremony of an introduction, I proceed at once to my present purpose—which is to illustrate in several particulars,

The Profits of Agriculture.

I observe, then, in the first place, that agriculture is profitable, in that it furnishes to the farmer a *rational, dignified, and honorable* occupation.

Heaven has not only decreed that man should live by labor—"in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread"—but has assigned it, as his earthly lot, "to till the ground from whence he was taken," and to these ends immutably adapted the human constitution. For man to devote himself, therefore, to agricultural pursuits, is but to submit to the ordinations of Infinite Wisdom, and to give the most rational response to the calls of his universal nature, which have ever intimated in a manner neither to be misunderstood or disregarded, that his energies were destined to find the true sphere of their exertion in the labors of the field,—since in this sphere alone he finds an adequate source of supply for the primary wants of his being, and realizes the perfect development and gratification of all his powers.

The pursuit of agriculture is a *dignified* pursuit. Too many of the employments of men are merely adventitious—invented to gratify cupidity, to pander to the lower appetites and passions, or, at least, to minister to wants that are unreal, the offspring of perverted tastes, fostered by the general corruption of society. But agriculture is an institution of heaven; its worthy objects are to meet the real wants, and to promote the happiness of man; and in its pursuit, the cultivator of the soil fulfils the purpose of his Maker, advances the welfare of his fellow-men, attains himself the true ends of life, and feels that he is occupying his appropriate sphere. Standing in the lot which he knows that Providence has assigned him, conscious of integrity, and independent of all beings but the Supreme, he certainly has claims to the native dignity of his species, to which no other class of men well dispute *his* title, if they can assert their own.

Indeed, what is there in the occupation of the farmer inconsistent with, or that does not, in fact, contribute to its dignity? If there be anything in the *origin*, or in the *antiquity* of a profession to entitle it to dignity, then surely agriculture must be thus entitled; for it had its origin in a Divine commission, and it is coeval with the race. If, to occupy a sphere of unparalleled *usefulness* and *importance* confer the title, then does it most rightfully belong to agriculture; for, says Dr. Johnson, "If we estimate dignity by immediate usefulness, agriculture is undoubtedly the first and noblest science;" and Professor Johnston, in his Lectures on Agricultural Chemistry, remarks—"That art on which a thousand millions of men are dependent for their very existence—in the prosecution of which nine-tenths of the fixed capital of all civilized nations is embarked—and probably two hundred millions of men expend their daily toil—that art must confessedly be the most important of all."

If to lie at the foundation of all the other great arts and interests of life, give dignity to an employment, then is agriculture dignified. "Perfect agriculture," declares Liebig, "is the true foundation of all trade and industry;" and Xenophon has observed that "agriculture is the nursing mother of all the arts; where it succeeds prosperously, there the arts thrive; but where the soil necessarily lies uncultivated, there the arts are extinct." If there be anything in the relations which a profession bears to the external world, to establish its claims to dignity, then is the claim of agriculture thus established; for not only has the scene of its operations been laid by the Creator in the midst of His works, but over those works has He given it dominion. Finally, if to be distinguished by its moral tendencies entitle any calling to this distinction, then does it belong to that of the farmer; for, says Socrates, "Agriculture is the mistress and school of sobriety, temperance, justice, religion, and, in short, of all the virtues."

The pursuit of agriculture is an *honorable* pursuit. It is, and ever has been honorable, in our own land. Witness the fact, that from "the Father of his Country" down to Henry Clay, four-fifths of those who have been elevated to the highest office in the people's gift, or stood as candidates for that office, have, at one period or another of their lives, been practical farmers. Mount Vernon, North Bend, the Hermitage, Ashland, and Marshfield, are illustrious witnesses that, in this land of light and freedom, agriculture has been, and is still most honorable. It ever has been honored by the wise and good of each succeeding age, and in its register are embraced many of the names that most adorn the annals of the world. With its retired and quiet scenes, the hero, statesman and philosopher have ever been enamored; to it the orator has lent his fullest and most glowing periods, and poetry has made her happiest flights in the delineation of its charms.

So high was the estimation in which the art of agriculture was held by the ancient Romans, that many of their noblest families, as the Fabii, the Pisones, the Lentuli, the Cicerones, &c., received their names from certain vegetable productions, in the cultivation of which they excelled; and Cato informs us that "when they wished to praise a good man, they called him an agriculturist and a good husbandman, and says that he was thought to be very highly honored who was thus praised." The ancient Romans were distinguished for the simplicity of their manners, and the estimate which they put upon a man depended not upon his dress or equipage, but upon his real worth, and his ability to serve the state—as is strikingly exemplified in the honors they conferred on such men as Cincinnatus, Dentatus, Fabricius, Regulus, and the like, who were called, by the voice of the people, from the little farms which they cultivated, to assume the highest trusts of an empire. And thus should men be ever estimated; and thus *will* men be ever estimated by the wise and virtuous, and by *all* men in times of difficulty and peril, which call for the services of plain, substantial merit. True it is that the farmer's is an humble sphere—that his manners are simple and unimposing—that his garb is often coarse, and soiled forsooth by his employment; yet, from that humble sphere, with all his plainness of manners and coarseness of garb, may be come forth a Xenophon, a Cincinnatus, or a Washington. True it is that he is destined to eat bread in the sweat of his face—to toil for his subsistence—and the routine of his toils may call him, now to leap into the ditch, and then to stand upon the dung-hill: but his soul is unsoiled by the contact; his spirit is free—and in the midst of his labors he is conscious of a degree of independence unknown upon the throne, and feels a satisfaction which a Crœsus could not purchase.

The farmer's is an humble life, I repeat; but "humility is before honor," and is far nearer akin to it than is suspected by him who casts contempt upon the tiller of the soil because his life is humble and his habit plain. True it is, that the farmer who has the good sense to suit his habit to his avocation, cannot glitter in the sunbeams with the man that makes the fashion, or, perhaps, *whom fashion makes*. But when the latter turns disdainfully upon his heel, and gives his back to the former, with the sneering observation that "*he is nothing but a farmer*," he needs to be informed that "*worth* makes the man," not *cloth*, and that although his neighbor, whom he affects to despise, is "but a farmer," he may be "a man for a' that." "What," (says the Scottish bard,)

> "What though on hamely fare we dine,
> Wear hoddin-grey and a' that?
> Gie fools their silks, and knaves their wine;
> A man 's a man for a' that;
> For a' that, and a' that,
> Their tinsel show and a' that,
> The honest man, though e'er so puir,
> Is king o' men for a' that."

Burns was a farmer—a farmer of very limited means—and many of the most exquisite of his immortal songs were composed amid the cares and labors of the field, and under circumstances which often made him thankful on the homeliest fare to dine, and wear the plainest hodden-grey; yet Burns was "a man for a' that," and, in his own history, has left the world a signal refutation of that silly theory which some men seem to entertain, that it is altogether the employment that honors the man, and not the man that honors the employment.

Still it is a fact that cannot escape the diligent observer of men, that occupation, throughout the wide circle of human employments, has an influence more or less direct and controlling, on human character; and that in the life of a farmer, especially, there is a combination of circumstances which strongly tends to form a character somewhat unique. Among these circumstances may be named that intimate connexion which his occupation has with the great operations of nature—the directness

of his dependence for subsistence on the bounties of the Creator—his remoteness from condensed society, from artificial life, and from the follies and vices attendant thereon—his exemption from the lures of ambition, the wiles of speculation, and the subtleties of trade—the simplicity and benevolence of his intercourse with his fellow-men, and those attachments to the soil which imperceptibly grow up into a love of country,—all of which conspire to beget and nourish in him those moral qualities which ever form "the very soul of honor."

But agriculture has other claims to be entitled honorable. It has ever been, and the history of our own country is a sufficient voucher for the truth as it relates to recent times, the great herald and agent of civilization. Where can that happy land be pointed to on earth, adorned with all the charms, and sharing all the benefits of refined life, that does not owe its elevation mainly to the humanizing arts of the husbandman? What is it but the cultivator's axe, that, in every age, has circumscribed the range of the savage, and extended the limits of civilized life? What is it but the cultivator's plow, that has changed the gloomy wilderness into a smiling garden, and converted the abodes of wild beasts into the dwelling-places of men? Who was it but a feeble band of tillers of the soil—feeble in numbers and in physical resources, but mighty in spirit—that began, two centuries ago, on Plymouth Rock, to lay the broad foundations of this great Republic? And who has it been but their successors in employment that have pushed that mighty enterprize from point to point, until from Plymouth Rock to the Rocky Mountains, the last traces of savage life have disappeared, and the wide expanse between become studded with villages and cities, and overspread with an enlightened, virtuous and happy population, basking in the full sunshine of freedom, and blest with all that renders life desirable? And what is it but the Genius of Agriculture, disseminating and equalizing among the earth-wide human family the varied bounties of the common mother of mankind, that, setting at defiance all the laws of nature—overarching the mighty river, casting down the mountain summits, raising up the interjacent vallies, and whitening every ocean, sea, and lake with canvass,—has not only intersected every land with navigable waters and with roads of iron, but bound together in commercial ties the most distant cities and kingdoms, and even brought the ends of the earth into proximity? And what is it, but the same beneficent agent, that is destined, (under the guidance of our holy religion,) by extending the arts of peace, and linking all the tribes of men together in one grand community of interests, to cause the nations ultimately to "beat their swords into plow-shares and their spears into pruning-hooks," and thus to become the great pacificator of the globe! And is there nothing *honorable* in achievements like these? The brow of him who comes in triumph from the field of conflict and of carnage, is accustomed to be wreathed with laurels: why not the brow of him who triumphs in a bloodless conquest over nature, and who turns that conquest, not to purposes of tyranny, but to the elevation of his species?

Agriculture is profitable, in the second place, in that *it fully meets the wants of man's physical nature.* I make no pretensions to physiological science, but I think its professors will bear me out in the following proposition, viz: that the first and most important demand of our physical nature is *exercise*—exercise free and abundant, and taken in the open air; the second, *food*—food plain and simple, but nutritious, and in sufficient quantity; and third, *rest*—rest taken at proper intervals, and during those hours which the Creator has indicated for that purpose, in the primary divisions of time into day and night. And where is it possible for these conditions of health and of vigor, not to say of comfort and of happiness, to be so fully met as in the life of the farmer? Called forth by the cares of his occupation at the dawn of day, the active exercises and the pure invigorating breezes of the morning, give to him a relish quite unknown to the man of sedentary life, for the plain and homely, perhaps, but fresh and wholesome provisions of his table—of which he partakes with the greater pleasure from the fact that they are the immediate rewards of his own honest industry. With strength renewed for the renewal of his toil, he "goeth forth unto his work, and to his labors until the evening," when alike prepared for the enjoyment of repose, "tired nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep," comes without wooing to his pillow, repairs his wasted energies, and fits him to resume the routine of his daily employments. This very regularity of the farmer's habits, in the taking of exercise, food and rest, cannot fail to exert upon his physical nature the most salutary influence; and to this character of his habits, in connection with that cheerfulness of spirit which it is the tendency of every scene around him to inspire, it is doubtless owing that we ever find him the image of health and vigor—his complexion fresh and ruddy, his step firm and elastic, and all his physical powers in their fullest development. And these are just the results which reason would lead us to anticipate, when we consider the human organization in its manifest adaptation to the outward circumstances of our being. The lungs, that artificial *life-bellows*, if I may so denominate it, whose unceasing office is to fan the vital flame, was adapted by the Great Artificer to the pure air of heaven, in which the farmer "lives, moves, and has his being," and all the human frame-work adjusted to those ever-varied exercises of the field which give to it compactness, symmetry and strength, and which qualify man for the fullest enjoyment of all the innocent pleasures for which his nature is fitted.

[Concluded in our next.]

Health affected by the Mind.—Nothing, says Dr. Metcalfe, more essentially contributes to health and longevity, than a happy and tranquil state of the mind, which is to be sought for in a temperate exercise of all the physical, intellectual, and moral faculties. Benevolence, friendship, love, a good conscience, with tender, refined and elevated thoughts, are never failing sources of health and cheerfulness; whereas pride, envy, jealousy, covetousness, anger, and all the passions, habitually indulged to excess, not only embitter our happiness, but sap the foundation of health, and shorten the period of existence.

India Rubber.—An India rubber factory in Providence, manufactures 600 pairs of shoes daily. The India rubber being first mashed, is dissolved in camphine, and passed several times between two iron rollers. It is then run off in a very thin web, by passing it between heavy rolls upon cloth, where it is kept in place until several layers are made, so as to obtain the desired thickness. During this operation, the material is kept warm by steam. One girl makes from ten to fifteen pairs of men's rubber shoes per day, after the material is prepared.—*Exch. pap.*

REPORTS OF ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

To the Committee on Cows and Heifers:

Gentlemen—The cow which I offer for exhibition and premium, is six years old. She calved the 21st of May, and has given milk as follows:

From May 21st to June 21st,	1469 lbs. 4 oz.
" June 21st to July 21st,	1264 lbs.
" July 21st to Aug. 21st,	1127 lbs. 8 oz.
" Aug. 21st to Sept. 21st,	956 lbs. 8 oz.
Total,	4817 lbs. 4 oz.

We sell most of her milk, but in order to ascertain the quality of it, we have made butter from it, and find that it takes nineteen pounds of milk to one pound of butter.

Her keeping has been good grass feed, with the exception of seven weeks, when she had two quarts of shorts per day.

The said cow was raised by John Bartlett, of Marblehead, and has been owned by me two years and six months.

HENRY CREESY.

Salem, Sept. 24th, 1845.

To the Committee on Cows and Heifers:

Gentlemen—I offer for your inspection my cow Flora, of native breed, six years old. The said cow calved on the 21st of last April. The calf was kept to her until the 13th of May. With what milk the calf left, and all after taking the calf from her until the 20th of May, we made 20 lbs. 8 oz. of butter.

Beginning at the 20th of May, we kept an account of the milk, by weight, morning and night, for the four months following, which was 4375 lbs. Butter from said milk, 211 lbs. 2 oz. From the 20th of May to the last day of June, inclusive, 84lbs. 2 oz. In July, 52 lbs. In August, 43 lbs. Twenty days in September, 32 lbs, 2 oz.

From the 20th of May to the last day of June, she gave 1597 lbs. of milk; in July, 1115 lbs.; in August, 987 lbs.; twenty days in September, 676 lbs.

Average of milk through the four months per day, 35 lbs. 105-122. Average of butter through the season, four months, 20 lbs. 155-211.

Manner of keeping said cow. After she calved, I commenced giving her two quarts of meal per day, until the last day of May. The 20th of May, I put her to pasture by herself. Her pasture was good through June; the first week in July it failed, so I took her out and put her in an old pasture with other cows for three weeks, to let my pasture grow. I then put her back again in my pasture and kept her until the 24th day of August, when I put her with another cow in new feed. I commenced giving her, the 30th of August, one quart of Indian meal and one quart of rye meal every night. She had no meal, roots or any thing, only what the pasture afforded, from the first day of June until the thirtieth day of August.

WARREN AVERILL.

Ipswich, Sept. 23, 1845.

On Butter.

[The Society's first premium for June butter, was awarded to Geo. W. Dodge, of Wenham.]

"*Process of Making.*—The milk is strained into tin pans, where it stands from 36 to 48 hours. It is than skimmed, and the cream put into tin pails, standing on the bottom of the cellar. A little salt is put into the pails before putting in the cream,

which at the times of addition is stirred. We churn twice a week. The buttermilk is thoroughly worked out by hand, no water being used for that purpose. In warm weather, the cream is lowered into the well the night before churning. Immediately after the buttermilk is worked out, the butter is salted with an ounce of ground rock salt to the pound, and in about 24 hours it is again worked over."

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On Farms.

DANIEL P. KING'S STATEMENT.

To the Committee on Farms:

GENTLEMEN,—Before the first of July, I had no intention of inviting you to visit my farm, but then learning that there had been no entry which would secure a report from you, I was unwilling that the Society should lose the benefit of a report, for I think that farmers derive their best hints from the observations and experience of practical farmers embodied in such reports.

I am far from thinking my management the best, or among the best, but as it has fully answered my reasonable expectations, I will as briefly as possible, state it.

My farm has a great variety of soil, but the cultivated lands are mostly a gravelly loam. I have about fifty acres in mowing, tillage and orchard, twenty-five acres of meadow, one fourth of which is peat, seventyfive acres in pasture, and several tracts of woodland. I formerly planted from seven to ten acres each year, but I have found it more profitable to raise hay than corn or potatoes: this last June, from thirty cwt. hay delivered in the barn, I received in my grain bins, forty bushels of yellow flat corn; the hay cost me in labor and all fair charges twelve dollars; to raise the corn would have cost me twentyfive dollars at least.

By recurring to my journal, (for I have long kept a sort of diary in which I have noted the employments of each day, the time of planting, hoeing, harvesting, the amount of crops, the cost of animals, current receipts and expenditures, &c.,) I find that since the 1st of April, I have expended for labor two hundred and five dollars, and one third of this has been in making walls, ditches, and permanent improvements. I have kept two pairs of oxen, one horse and ten cows; one pair of oxen which two years ago cost me fifty dollars, I have sold to the butcher for one hundred and five dollars; four cows which cost fortythree, I have sold for seventyeight dollars, and I have received in exchange of cows thirty dollars. I have kept no account of the milk and butter used and sold which has been less than the usual quantity. I have four fat swine worth seventyfive dollars, which one year ago cost six dollars; their manure has paid for all the grain they have consumed. I have raised one hundred and fifty eight bushels corn, ninetyfive bushels of oats, thirty bushels of rye and one hundred and twenty bushels of potatoes; of carrots, turnips and beets, about two hundred and fifty bushels, and of other vegetables and fruits in abundance. Some years I have had three or four hundred bushels of good apples, this year not more than thirty. I have cut thirty one tons of English hay which was made and secured with fiftyfive days labor. I used a horse-rake which paid for itself in one week; my crop was diminished by the drought from one-fourth to one-third. My meadow hay was a fine crop and got in good order; I have sold twelve loads of meadow hay and straw, and have by estimation fodder enough, corn fodder included, to keep my stock and some twelve or fifteen tons to spare. I have carried to market twelve cords of wood, always taking a return load of manure. I purchase annualy about fortyfive dollars worth of manure, which I never use without composing. I have used for planting, sowing and top-dressing two hundred and eighty loads of compost.

In the barn yards and pig pens I make about one hundred and ten loads, and at leisure times get out peat muck and cart it into the field where it is to be used. I then mix one cord stable or barn yard dung, preferring the stable, with four cords of muck; after lying till the heap heats, it is again thrown over and a few feet of fresh dung or spent ashes added if necessary. I have found this compost better than clear manure and equal to any thing except pig manure for corn and potatoes on gravelly or sandy loams. I have now on hand more than one hundred loads of this compost besides a good supply of the barn and pig yards, and I could not farm without it. With this kind of manure I had sixty bushels of corn to the acre without any extra labor or care,—one fourth of an acre produced at the rate of seventy bushels, and I raised fiftyfive bushels of oats on one acre; no great yields certainly; but the expense of cultivation too was moderate. All the land on which I have this year raised potatoes, corn and oats has been since ploughed, manured, and laid down with rye and grass seed, with the exception of one acre of meadow, which in April I sowed with oats and grass seed after spreading three hundred lbs. of guano; the oat straw was very rank and the grass has started handsomely. I have tried guano, salt, saltpetre and ashes this season, but I forbear to speak further of results because you, gentlemen, have seen them, and will determine for yourselves.

My corn land I usually plant but one year; it is always ploughed in the fall because the team is in better condition for work, more vegetable matter is ploughed under, and the soil sooner becomes mellow. I have practiced plowing in August or September for rye; laid the furrow flat, rolled it, spread on from twentyfive to thirty loads of compost, (30 bushels to the load,) harrowed well, then sowed one peck of herds-grass and one bushel of redtop, brushed it, and then laid all smooth with a loaded roller. My rye and grass have always done well—the straw selling from seven to ten dollars per acre, and the grain bringiug ten per cent. more than the southern.

Directly after taking off a crop of hay, early in July, I have inverted the sod, rolled, harrowed in a good deal of compost, sowed one peck of millet to the acre, brushed, then sown clover, herds-grass, redtop, and brushed and rolled smooth. I have never failed of getting a ton of millet fodder to the acre, and when the frost has been delayed for about seventy days from the time of sowing, thirty or forty bushels of millet seed to the acre, and the next year and for several years, a good crop of hay. But it is not prudent to sow millet after the tenth of July, on account of the frost: it should not be sown before the middle of May: best sown in June.

In August, I plowed two acres of land, which was this year mowed; rolled it flat; spread 60 loads of compost, harrowed it well, sowed one-half bushel herds-grass and two bushels redtop, then brushed and rolled it smooth; this process has always succeeded with me.

In planting my corn the present season, instead of cross furrowing, I ran the plow but one way, and not so deep as to disturb the sod, nearly filled the furrows, which were four feet distant in part of the field, with my common compost, in part with pig manure, then dropped the kernels in the furrows, six inches apart, and covered, leaving the surface of the ground even: in May, went between the rows with the cultivator and hoe, and again the last of June, but making no hill, and this, with the exception of pulling by hand a few weeds, was all the culture. The crop, as you witnessed, was clean and heavy.

In October, 1842, I plowed three acres of field land, which had been in grasss five years, and rolled it. In May following, harrowed it and spread 70 loads of compost, which was well harrowed, then marked the hills four feet apart each way, dropped the corn and covered; in June, went through with the cultivator and hoe, and late in July, sowed grass seed among the standing corn, went through with the cultivator and hoe, making no hills; in October, the corn was cut up close, and the ground rolled with a loaded roller. On one acre I had one hundred and two baskets of good corn, and the crops of grass have been fair. I have since followed this plan with better success when I have used more and better compost.

I have this year let five acres of meadow and three pasture lots. I have top dressed my reclaimed meadows with a compost of loam and warm manure, and have further extended my experiments in reclaiming meadows. I have attempted some improvements on bushy and mossy pastures, which now promise well; on these I have sown winter and multicole rye, with some spurry and common grass seed.

If I have raised no large crops, the expense and labor have been moderate, and I have the satisfaction of thinking that my farm is in an improving condition. DANIEL P. KING.

Danvers, Nov. 4, 1845.

Preserving Poultry and Game.—This delicious meat, and even small sheep, may be kept fresh two months of the winter, by first cooking, and then hanging them up to freeze in a cold room. Freezing makes the meat more tender, and it also partially absorbs the spices of the stuffing, and becomes very delicious in its flavor in a few weeks. Poultry, &c. may be preserved by having the insides taken out, and charcoal dust put in their place, and then hung up as above; also, by putting it down in cold lard.—*Amer. Agricult.*

Failure of the Potato Crop.—The accounts of the failure of this crop are so fluctuating that we can hardly give an opinion respecting it. There is no doubt, however, that the loss has been grossly and wickedly exaggerated, for the purpose of aiding speculators. We may say the same of wheat and other products.—*English pap.*

Emigration to the United States.—Great preparations are making in Germany and Switzerland to emigrate to America the coming season. Food is scarce and high; wages low; besides, the people, being much persecuted for their religious opinions, desire to live where they can choose their own road to heaven, and have plenty to eat while travelling thither.—*Ib.*

Liebig says, "any injury to health from the use of diseased potatoes is out of the question, and nowhere in Germany has such an effect been observed."

CORN COBS AS FOOD FOR CATTLE.

When it is recollected how many hundreds and thousands of bushels of corn cobs are annually thrown away, or wastefully used as fuel, it becomes a matter of deep interest to every corn-grower to know the degree of value to which this offal of the farm may be entitled to be considered as food for cattle.

Do corn-cobs possess properties of nutrition? If so, are those properties sufficiently concentrated to render them safe and efficient food? These questions are important, and particularly so in those years when there may be a scarcity of long feed, as hay, tops and fodder—and, fortunately for the solution of these questions, a most accurate test—a nicely conducted experiment—was made many years since, by P. Miner, Esq., of Ridgway, Va., and communicated at the time to the Agricultural Society of Albermarle county of that State. His experiment was conducted by distillation, probably the surest way of testing the degree of nutriment, and the result of this experiment is entitled to the more consideration, as it was undertaken at the request of a member of the Society, with the express object of determining the relative proportions of nutritive matter in the *grain* and *cobs* of the Indian corn.

Mr Miner says the experiment was carried on under the eye of an experienced and intelligent distiller, and was as follows:

Ten bushels of the corn and cob ground together were taken, which weighed 367 lbs., and ten bushels of pure corn-meal were taken, which weighed 400 lbs. They were both brewed or mashed on the same day, and distilled separately, with great care and accuracy. The product of the pure corn was eighteen gallons, and the product of the mixture, or corn and cob, was thirteen gallons of spirit, each of the same degree of proof.

Now, it is generally agreed that the cob constitutes about one-half of the bulk of corn—in other words, we give two measures in the ears for one shelled, and the cobs are either used as fuel, or thrown away, as of no value. If this were true, the product of the mixture then should have been only nine gallons, or the half of what the pure corn produced. But thirteen gallons were obtained, four of which must have been extracted from the cobs; or, if we estimate nutritive power by the quantity of spirit, then it is clear, that when we shell ten bushels of corn and throw away the cobs, we throw away a portion of food equal to the difference between nine and thirteen, or nearly one half.

This experiment of Mr Miner's, accurately and nicely as it was conducted, does not settle the question as to how much nutriment the cobs contain—it only settles that, of how much *spirit* they will make—and what their relative value is for the production of spirit, compared with the *grain*. It proves that while 10 bushels of *meal* from the *grain* made 18 gallons of spirit, the same quantity of meal made from *cobs and grain*, made 13 gallons—and, of course, that the 5 bushels of cobs yielded 4 gallons of spirit.

Besides the principle of *alcohol* found in all grain and most vegetables, there are other substances, or principles in all, possessing nutritive properties: among these, may be enumerated the saccharine and oleaginous principles—of infinite value, not only in the sustenance of the animal system, by the elaboration of carbon, but in the production of fat. And beside these, there are other principles which contribute to the formation of flesh, muscle and bones.

Without reference to the chemical analysis of the corn-cob, (of which we are not aware that one has been made,) we take it for granted, that as it contains four-ninths as much spirit as does the *grain*, that its elements bear a proportionate relation. But we are not left to conjecture as to its value; because the experience of every one who may have lived in the neighborhood of a distillery, will have taught him that the residium, after the spirit is extracted from the grain, familiarly called *distillers' slop*, is used advantageously in the fattening of swine, and that when fed to milch cows, it is eminently conducive to the secretion of milk, and fed in connection with fodder or hay, never fails to keep them in good heart and condition.

But to return to the *corn-cobs*. We have already shown that so far as *spirit* is concerned, that they yield nearly as much as the grain itself, and we think the inference a fair one, that if they were reduced to *meal*, submitted to some cooking process, and incorporated with chopped fodder of some kind, they would be found, for *cattle*, fully equal to half their quantity of corn, whether regard be had to their general health, the formation of flesh, muscle, bone, and fat.

We conclude, therefore, by the expression of the opinion, that every corn-grower should save his corn-cobs for his cattle, and that to render them available, he ought to provide himself with the means of reducing them to cob-meal.—*Amer. Farmer.*

ON DRAINING.

It is curious to notice the changes that are constantly taking place in the advice and practice of our most eminent men, who have lectured or written on what it is now the fashion to call *thorough draining*, but which has been known many years in some localities in Worcestershire, by the name of *furrow draining*.

We first began under this system to put in the drains just out of the reach of the plow, the poaching of horses, or the sinking of wheels; since that time, we have been gradually descending into the earth. And I have lately seen advice given in the public prints, to *bore* in the bottom of our drains: from this we may be led to expect, that in a short time it will become all "one concern."

Again, we were advised to put over our drains, whether made of tile, stone, or other material, so many inches of broken stones, thorns, straw or stubble, to allow the water an easy passage to the drain; the raw subsoil, especially if it was clay, was to be carefully excluded in filling up, and none but the active soil used to cover the drain.

Following this advice, many thousand pounds have been uselessly thrown away, and the drainage, in numberless instances, is very imperfect. One gentleman, whose writings and opinions on agricultural subjects have done good service to the cause, has honorably and candidly told us that he expended some hundreds of pounds more on a small estate in draining than was necessary, but then he was trying a mode perfectly original, by putting the broken stones underneath, and the drain tile on the top.

Our latest advice is, to put in (four deep) in any soil, the smallest tile we can get, with an aperture of one inch in diameter, the subsoil to be then put in, and if it is clay, so much the better, and the firmer it is rammed in and made solid, the more perfect will be the drainage.

Here, then, we have extremes the very reverse of each other, and each in their turn have had their advocates, who would have felt displeased to have their judgments doubted.

It may, then, become a question with the young farmer or commercial gentleman who is anxious to embark his capital in scientific farming, which of these systems really is the best, and most likely to insure a safe return for the amount of capital invested.

On this question, experience tells us—do not implicitly believe or follow extremes on either side, but judge for yourself, by trying their systems on a small scale, side by side, and do not despise the practice of the neighborhood until you have *proved* it erroneous. It is too much the fashion for experimenters and writers on agriculture to give their opinions as though one system would suit all soils and situations; a greater mistake cannot be made; what would suit in one would be worthless in another, and *vice versa*: this applies not only to draining, but also to implements, and everything connected with the cultivation of the soil.

As regards putting in tiles 4 feet deep for *surface* drainage, if it does answer well in some instances, it is no proof that it would succeed in all. In some situations it would be impossible to get proper outfalls for that depth, and in others the expense would be very considerable. Now, we should commence our drainage with good outfalls, that the water may go off briskly; if dead levels are brought up to the mouths of the mains, the water moves off sluggishly, and then unless constant care is taken to keep the water-courses scoured out, grass and weeds will soon grow up and stop the drains.—*R. Smith, in London Agricul. Gaz.*

Blood as a Substitute for Potatoes.—With reference to a communication from a correspondent, signing himself "M. S. B.," I believe that the more minutely blood has been examined, the more clearly it appears to be not only an improper, but a dangerous food. It is extremely subject to putrescence. Scarcely is it extravasated and exposed to the air, than it shows obvious symptoms of putridity. Hence wolves, foxes, &c., more sagacious than human blood-eaters, suck it from the veins of the animals. Expose it a short time to the influence of the air, and the most voracious brute will refuse to taste it.

Blood is also the seat and organ of almost every animal disease: inflammation and putridity are the seeds of disease, and these have not only their origin in the blood, but are often concealed and secretly working in it, long ere the disease shows itself in the system.

None of the milder animals eat blood—none but the most savage, ferocious and artful brutes live on it. Humanity is characteristic of man: how improper, then, would it be, were it permitted in man to act as a brother to animals the most ferocious of the brutal world!

I pursue the subject no further, though much more might be said in deprecation of the recommendation of "M. S. B.," which I trust none will follow.—*Quercus, in London Ag. Gaz.*

Salting Pork.—Having seen a good deal of discussion about doing this without saltpetre, I beg to state that for years it has been our custom to salt all pork and meat with only salt and sugar. The method is as follows: The pigs were fatted till they became fat as bacon hogs; then killed and cut up immediately; the sides divested of nearly all the

lean, and slightly rubbed with salt and sugar: a thick layer of salt was laid upon the bottom of the brine-tub, and upon that sugar; the pork being cut to the size of the tub, was laid rind downwards, some sugar sprinkled over it, then a layer of salt, and then more sugar, till the pork was hid; another layer of pork, rind downwards, succeeded, then the salt and sugar, till the tub was filled, care being taken to cover the top layer very thickly with salt, &c., to exclude the air, and to put the lid on tight; if in a week or two the brine did not begin to rise, some warm water was sprinkled over it. In about three months the pork might be begun on if wanted, and when boiled, was firm and red as a cherry. At the end of two years our pork has been even better than when first used, and far preferable to bacon, and richer than when saltpetre was used. The pork was warm when put into the tub. A bushel of salt was used for each hog. —*D. M., in Lond. Ag. Gaz.*

Affinity of the Soil for the Saline Particles of Manure.—Your correspondent, "Oxygen," in your paper of the 18th inst., says, "So strong is the affinity of the soil for the saline parts of manure, that water charged with them is soon deprived of its freight," &c. I doubt very much his theory. A few years ago, I manured a field of about 4 acres, at the rate of about 15 cartloads per acre, I think in the month of November. I then plowed it. In about a fortnight after, a quantity of rain fell. The field was partially drained, and the main drain emptied into one which supplied a pond. When the drains began to run, I perceived the water in the pond to be colored, as if a portion of the water from the dung-heap had run into it. I could account for the color in no other way than that the rain carried with it a portion of the manure from the field.

"Oxygen" says, it [water] will escape from the drain as pure as when it fell upon the earth. I would ask him, if the water has the power of carrying with it the coloring matter from the manure, must it not take with it those very soluble salts which manure is said to contain—as soda, potash, ammonia, &c.?—*F. Marston, in Lond. Agricl. Gaz.*

The Chemist can confer Fertility on a Barren Soil.—The soil, as is well known, owes its origin to the disintegration and decomposition of rocks and minerals, and of the vegetables which have previously grown upon it. Its constitution, therefore, differs in various localities, according to the nature of the geological formations whence it has originated.

To a certain extent, and for certain purposes, the geologist can explain the nature and properties of the soil in any given place, but geology itself greatly needs the assistance of the chemist, to show the constitution of rocks, soils, and minerals, in order to perfect that science. A knowledge of the chemical constitution of the soil must be the basis of any successful attempt to increase the fertility of land by adding to it ingredients which it may be supposed to need.

Admitting the land called poor, to have received every amelioration possible from mechanical contrivances, draining, &c., it would now require to be supplied with a store of the ingredients constituting the earthy materials of plants, in due proportions and in such a state as to admit of their becoming gradually available as food to successive crops, no necessary substance being omitted, on the one hand, and on the other, their solubility in water not being so ready as to admit their being washed away by the first rains. In order to fulfil these important indications, the aid of chemistry is indispensable.—*London Ag. Gaz.*

Degeneration of Potatoes.—It has been repeatedly asserted that the reason why the potato is now suddenly attacked by a malady, which at one time threatened its extinction, is that it has degenerated; and on all sides we hear of recommendations that new varieties of the potato should be immediately raised from seed.

In this, as in all other matters, it is easy to make assertions; but before we give assent to them, we must ask for some proof of their truth. Do the gentlemen who clamor for new varieties, know which are the old varieties now cultivated, and which the new? Have they any proof that the old varieties have suffered in any peculiar degree, or that the new varieties have escaped? Can they point out any one instance among potatoes in which facts support their views? We think not.

Dr. Maclean, a gentleman skillful in all horticultural affairs, raised but the other day, a seedling potato of great vigor and excellence: its production is so recent that few persons yet possess it at all. With this variety, a portion of an old meadow newly trenched over, near London, was planted in the autumn of 1844 and spring of 1845: no manure being used. The crop was so much attacked by the disease, that not a single potato was found worth preserving.

In reality there is no proof in any part of the vegetable kingdom that the races of plants wear out. Such an opinion was entertained, indeed, by the late Mr Knight, and his views have been adopted by some physiologists. Yet there is not only no proof of their correctness, but the strongest presumption to the contrary. It is superfluous to say that the Golden Pippin apple is the instance on which this theory mainly turns. It is said that it has worn out, and can no longer be cultivated. But the Golden Pippin still appears abundantly in Covent Garden Market; trees as healthy as ever are to be found in this country; we ourselves have seen it in Ireland, where there is no symptom of its decrepitude, and in Madeira it is in robust health. The wearing-out theory, therefore, falls to the ground.—*Prof. Lindley, Ed. Gard. Chron.*

Small Farms vs. Large.—Small farms are certainly more easily improved than large ones, and while the fertility of the soil is thereby increased, the remuneration, the net gain, is in the inverse ratio to its size, when compared with larger ones of equal fertility. I am clearly of the opinion if a man have five hundred acres in one body, that his best policy is to do with it, as Solomon adjudged, when the child was claimed by two mothers—cut it in halves—and if he cannot sell a moiety, or cultivate it advantageously, he had better give it away. A vast proportion of the debts for which agriculturists are bound, arises from the purchase of more land. It is somewhat of a mania, I admit, among the good people of Maryland, which can only be abated by the stern enforcement of contracts, and by the conviction that large possessions of land in the hands of the same person, never benefit the country, and seldom the individual. Had I my time to live over again, I would not add an additional acre to my patrimonial estate.—*Mr Sellman's Address before the Prince George (Md.) Ag. Soc.*

Farmers and their Children.—The paramount duty of the agriculturist is to elevate his class, and place himself in the position to which he is entitled. No idea more fatal to the supremacy of the farmer ever possessed him than that of educating some one child in particular for what is denominated the learned professions. Mr President, let agriculturists educate their children thoroughly, regardless of any such partial, unfair and unjust consideration. As agriculturists, let them educate their children for agriculturists. Let them not give bread to one and stones and serpents to the others. Let them bear in mind that education adorns and improves the cultivator of the soil, as much as it does the lawyer, the doctor or the divine. It is a false notion and unworthy the citizens of a free republic, that education was not necessary to the cultivator of the soil. When we reflect that this is a free country, and that freedom can only be preserved by the pure light that is reflected by knowledge, can the cultivator of the soil hesitate a moment to put his shoulder to the wheel? If he loves his children, educate them: if he loves his country, educate them. It is a duty he owes to both children and country.—*Ibid.*

For Sore Throat.—We have known several instances in which this distressing complaint, even in its worst stages, has been immediately alleviated and speedily cured by the following remedy: Mix a pennyworth of powdered camphor with a wineglass full of brandy, pour a small quantity on a lump of sugar, and allow it to dissolve in the mouth every hour. The third or fourth time generally enables the patient to swallow with ease.—*Ex. pap.*

To Extract Oil or Grease from Garments.—Cover over the spot with whiting, and let it remain until it becomes saturated with grease, then scrape it off, and repeat the process till the grease is removed. Three coats of whiting will, in most cases, remove the spot, when it should be brushed off with a clothes' brush.—*Ib.*

A Crazy Farmer.—The American Agriculturist relates the story of a man at the Insane Hospital, at Worcester, Mass., to whose importunities the Superintendent granted a piece of ground for the display of his eccentricities in farming. His first move was to construct little ponds, into which he carried the water from the roofs of the buildings, and the urine from the water closets, where it was allowed to stand until it was well amalgamated, when he conducted it by small ditches evenly over the field. The field, being in grass, yielded six cuttings of a ton per acre each, the first season. It would do many men good to be as crazy as that.—*Tenn. Agricult.*

Wine Manufacture.—The cultivation of the grape for wine, has become a somewhat extensive business in parts of Ohio and Kentucky. Mr Longworth, of Cincinnati, writes to the American Agriculturist, that his vineyard of nine acres yielded, the past season, the sum of $1779 41 in cash; and that several others in the vicinity were more productive than his.

To take Stains out of Silk.—Mix together in a phial, 2 oz. essence of lemon, 1 oz. oil of turpentine. Rub the grease or other spots in silk gently with a linen rag dipped in the above composition. —*Exch. pap.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, Jan. 21, 1846.

FIRST AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE.

[As we could not conveniently attend the meeting on Tuesday evening of last week, we copy the following account of the doings from the report in the Ploughman. We shall endeavor to attend the future meetings, and report the proceedings.]

The Hon. E. Rice, from Marlborough, was invited to call the meeting to order, when it was voted to choose a President and three Vice Presidents, to preside during the session of the Legislature.

Hon. Wm. B. Calhoun, President of the Senate, was unanimously chosen President. The Hon. Joseph Stone, Luther Lawrence, and J. H. W. Page, Esqrs., were chosen Vice Presidents.

Joseph Breck, Wm. Buckminster, and Samuel W. Cole, were chosen reporters of the discussions at the meetings.

Mr Calhoun was at the meeting, and presided during the evening.

Hon. Mr Gray, of Boston, who has a beautiful country seat in Cambridge, and takes much interest in agriculture, made some introductory observations relative to the propriety and usefulness of meetings of this kind. He said he rose to make inquiries. He had learned that farmers meet with much difficulty on account of the peculiarities of our climate. The drought of our summers often occasions loss of harvests to a great amount, while in England there is constant moisture, occasioning vegetation to look green through the winter; yet we have more rain here, on the whole, than they have in England.

He said our droughts last for 30 or 40 days, and we ought to contrive to guard against them by stirring the ground frequently, or in some other way. Farmers know many remedies for evils of such character, but farmers are loath to write and tell what they know. If what is called a "gentleman farmer" undertakes to write articles on such subjects, he is not much regarded. He did not himself know, till within a few years, that frequent stirring would tend to keep plowed ground more moist than it would otherwise be.

Mr Gray said we ought to investigate more fully the subject of the loss of crops by the depredations of worms and insects. The caterpillar ought not to be allowed to make such havoc as we often witness. The canker worm ought to be exterminated. The subject of manures ought to be more fully considered. In his vicinity good manure brings more per cord than fire-wood; and it cannot be purchased by all. Farmers cannot afford to buy at exorbitant prices, and they ought to search for a greater variety of material. Fish may be had in many places. As to mineral manures, Mr G. said, the more he read the more he was confounded. Neither lime nor plaster had helped his land; yet in Pennsylvania a single farmer buys hundreds of bushels of these articles annually.

Mr Gray thought it highly important that we should attend more to the diseases of animals. One farmer had told him that a little bit of the tail should always be cut off from young neat stock, for the last joint would corrupt, and communicate disease to the whole system. He would like to know whether there was any reason in this, or whether it was whim. He knew there were four stomachs in ruminating animals. This system, so complicated, might, he conceived, be easily deranged. He spoke of choking with apples, &c., and would inquire whether a pole or staff, run down the throat, was the proper mode of giving relief. He mentioned these cases for the purpose of provoking inquiry.

[Mr Buckminster, of the Ploughman, made some remarks on the use of lime and plaster.]

Hon. Mr Stone, from Hardwick, made some remarks on the subject of rot in potatoes. He said the Lady Finger kind had not been injured. The Long Red had also escaped the contagion as generally as any kind. He hoped that more people would communicate facts on this subject, to enable us to come to some general conclusion as to the cause of rot.

Mr S. W. Cole said he passed through towns in Maine last fall, and he found the Lady Finger had been affected as much as any kind. He found that the Long Red had escaped as free as any species that he had seen. He made some remarks on the remedies that had been recommended. Salt had been used in various ways, but he thought salt had done no good; for potatoes near the sea-shore, and potatoes covered with sea-weed, were found as much affected as any others.

Mr Cole thought the rot should be ascribed chiefly to atmospheric influence. He said apples of various kinds had been affected in the same way. Jewett's Fine Red he had known for thirty years, and he had never seen it so much affected with rot as in the last autumn. He thought the atmosphere might affect various kinds of fruits in the same way as it affects the potato.

J. A. Morton, Esq., from Hadley, said he could not learn much from any one as to the cause of the rot. Where he put lime in the hill last spring, his own potatoes were not rotten: he put a small handful in each hill.

A motion was now made to choose a committee to name a subject at each meeting, to be discussed at the following one—and also to engage some person to commence the evening's work, by an address of half an hour's length. Messrs. Gray, Stone, Gleason, Page, and H. Byington, (of Stockbridge,) were chosen the committee.

The President was requested to name a subject for the next evening, and he proposed "The Application of Manures."

BONE MANURE.

(Continued from our last No.)

There seems to be some difference of opinion as to what constitutes the fertilizing principles of bones. Prof. Liebig, in the third edition of his Agricultural Chemistry, says, "The efficiency of bones as a manure does not depend upon the nitrogenized (organic) matter, as has been generally, but erroneously supposed, but upon their phosphate of lime." Prof. Johnston, and many others, attach much to the gelatine, which slowly decomposes and affords to plants nitrogen. The gelatine or organic part of bones, is, chemically, like horn, hair, wool and skin—and as these substances are all known to be good manures, the gelatine of bones must operate in the same way.

The oil or fat in fresh bones, if applied to the soil without any preparation, I think, cannot be of much use, as it consists entirely of carbon, and the elements of water—oxygen and hydrogen. When buried in the soil, it is almost as indestructible as charcoal. If muscle, lean meat, and animal fat, are mixed in a heap, and exposed to the action of the weather, even in the hottest part of summer, the muscle (lean meat) is soon decomposed, but the fat will run together and be converted into a substance resembling old cheese or spermaceti: the fat in bones will probably do the same.

There are several ways in which a farmer may make use of bones for manure, in the country, where there are no mills to grind them. He can break them up, and apply them to the soil in the broken state: they will in that way gradually give out nitrogen and phosphate of lime for at least "three lives."

They can be burned, and then they are easily broken up, and can be dissolved in sulphuric acid: the fire, however, drives off all the animal matter. Or they can be boiled in strong lye, and in a few hours they become disintegrated and as fine as meal. By this process, the nitrogenized part—the gelatine, is mostly driven off, and the air of a room in which they are boiling, smells as strong of ammonia as the hold of a guano ship: but the oil and fat are converted into a kind of soap. The whole can be mixed with muck or soil, and will make a first rate manure for the turnip crop.

I have boiled some bushels of horn-piths into a pulp, in three hours: the harder bones require some longer time. Without doubt, if there was a portion of sulphuric acid mixed with the lye, the bones would come to pieces much sooner, and the ammonia would probably be fixed by the acid, and formed into sulphate of ammonia—unless it should combine with the potash of the lye, or the lime of the bone, as it has a stronger affinity for these.

As stated near the commencement of this, rather more than one-half of dry bone is phosphate of lime—in the proportion of 51 1-2 per cent. of lime, and 48 1-2 of phosphoric acid. By mixing about one-half the weight of sulphuric acid diluted with water, double decomposition ensues—one-half the lime of the bone combines with the sulphuric acid, and forms gypsum. The other part of the lime combines with a double equivalent of phosphoric acid, and super, or biphosphate of lime is the result. Phosphate of lime is very insoluble—biphosphate is much more soluble, and is readily taken up by the rootlets of plants—especially by the wheat crop. About one-half the ashes of the grain of wheat is phosphate of lime. Phosphate of lime and potash are found in the ashes of all our forest trees, but it is so very insoluble that it is not extracted in the process of leaching for soap making, and unquestionably, much of the value of spent ashes depends upon the phosphates they contain.

L. B.

Planning.—The sagacious, systematic farmer, will avail himself of the opportunity afforded by the leisure of winter, to plan operations to be carried out the coming season. In this practice lies the secret of many a farmer's thrift, as well as many a farmer's *un*-thrift.

The devising and perfecting of plans before attempting undertakings, is as important and as useful to the farmer in his business, as to the military chieftain in his, and is as sure to conduce to the profit of the former, as to the success and fame of the latter. The characteristics which made Washington a great General, made him, also, a good Farmer,—and foremost of these were energy and forethought—the head to plan, and the arm to execute.

Plans for improvements on the farm should not only be devised in a season of leisure, but committed to paper—considered, reconsidered, and perfected—and placed in the order of time at which they will have to be executed.

This practice, if universally adopted, would tend to the accomplishment of many improvements which from year to year are unattempted, merely for the want of forethought and planning.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietor of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending Jan. 18.

Jan. 1846.		7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	12	27	38	30	W.
Tuesday,	13	27	33	27	W.
Wednesday,	14	14	32	34	S. W.
Thursday,	15	23	40	35	W.
Friday,	16	34	41	36	N. E.
Saturday,	17	28	32	27	N.
Sunday,	18	4	4	3	N. W.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Jan. 19, 1846.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 360 Beef Cattle, 850 Sheep, and 50 Swine. 70 Beef Cattle unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—A small advance only was effected. We quote Extra $5,25 a $5,37. First quality $4,75 a $5,00. Second quality $4,25 a 4,50. Third quality $3,50 a $4,00.

Sheep.—Sales at $1,50, $2,25, $3 and $4,50.

Swine.—No lots sold. At retail from 4 1-2 to 6.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $0 00 a 2 50 per bushel. Red Top 00 to 00 cents. Clover—Northern, 11 to 11½c.—Southern, 10 a 11c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $2 25 a 2 50 per bushel. Millet, 1 75 to 2 00.

GRAIN. The demand for Grain has been light during the last week, and the few sales made have been at quotations.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 75 a 76—Southern, round yellow, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, 72 a 74—do. do. white 70 a 72—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00—Rye, Northern, 85 a 87—do. Southern, 00 a 00—Oats Southern, 40 a 43—Northern do. 00 to 00—Beans, per bushel 1 50 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 50 a 55—Bran, 00 a 40.

FLOUR. No action has taken place in the market since our last quotations.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. new, $5 75 a 0 00—do. wharf, $0 00 a 5 62—do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $0 00 a 0 00—Fredericksburg, low Pd new $0 00 a 5 62—Alexandria, wharf, 0 00 a 5 62—Georgetown, $5 75 a 5 87—Extra do. 0 00 a 0 00—Richmond Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, City, $0 00 a 0 00—do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $5 75 a 5187—do fancy brands, $6 00 a 6 25—Ohio via Canal, $5 50 a 5 62—do do New Orleans, cash $0 00 a 0 00. Rye, $0 00 a 5 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $4 00 a 4 25.

PROVISIONS. Demand for Pork continues moderate, and the sales of new packed have been as below quoted.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $8 75 a 9 25—Navy—$7 75 a 8 25.—No. 1, $0 00 a 0 00—do Prime $5 75 a 6 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $15 00 a 00 00—do Clear $14 00 a 14 50 do. Mess, $13 00 a 13 75—do Prime $10 00 a 11 00—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, ship'ng, 12 a 14—do store, uninspected, 13 a 15—do dairy, 19 cts. a 21—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 8¼ a 8½—do South and Western, 8 a 8½—Hams, Boston, 9 a 9½—Southern and Western, 0 a 0—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal 6 a 8—do new milk, 7¼ a 0.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts per pound.

There has been a fair demand for both pulled and fleece Wool; the fine qualities have been in more request than for several weeks.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 40 a 42 c.—American full blood. do 37 a 38—Do. 3-4 do 32 a 33—Do. 1-2 do 30 a 31—1-4 and common do 27 a 30—Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 22—Do. unwashed, 10 a 15—Bengasi do 6 a 12—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 14—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 33 a 37—No. 1 do. do. do. 27 a 30—No. 2 do do do 18 a 20—No. 3 do do do 14 a 16.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1844, lb. 23 a 25; 2d do 21 a 22.

Sales the past week have been a few bales to brewers for immediate consumption. The stock in market that can be offered for sale is not far from 300 bales, in a few hands, and held firmly at the above prices.

HAY, 20 to 21 per ton—Eastern Screwed $17 to 18.

EGGS, 15 to 18.

WILLIS'S
Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston, Willis's Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of Cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nov. 1.

Guano! Guano!

Just received and for sale in lots to suit purchasers, 20 tons African and South American Guano, of superior quality, the best ever brought into this market. The African, which is part of the cargo of the brig Samos was analyzed by one of the first chemists of this country, and pronounced to be of the first quality; it has been fairly tested by many of the farmers and gardeners in the vicinity of Boston, and has fully equalled their highest expectations. We can fully recommend the South American, which has also been carefully analyzed, and found to be a splendid article, and very superior, being free from stones and hard substances. For sale by the ton, bbl. or bag. Orders addressed to JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market street, will be promptly attended to.

Boston, March 25, 1845.

SEEDS AND TOOLS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. having received a full and general assortment of FIELD, GRASS, GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS, worthy of cultivation, confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities, unmixed with other varieties; they have no hesitation in saying that their collection of Seeds is the best, and of the greatest variety ever offered for sale at any establishment in the U. States.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS of all kinds, constantly on hand.

AGRICULTURAL AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS of all kinds, among which are the following, viz:—1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs, 200 Common do. do, 200 Cultivators, 100 Greene's Straw Cutters, 50 Willis' do. do. 100 Common do. do, 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers, 50 Common do. do, 200 Willis' Seed Sowers, 50 do. Vegetable Cutters, 50 Common do. do., 200 Hand Corn Mills, 200 Grain Cradles, 100 Ox Yokes, 1500 Doz. Scythe Stones, 3000 do. Austin's Rifles, 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels, 150 do. Common do. 100 do. Spades, 500 do. Grass Scythes, 300 do. Patent Snaiths, 200 do. Common do., 500 do. Hay Rakes, 200 do. Garden do., 200 do. Manure Forks, 300 do. Hay do. 500 Pair Trace Chains, 100 do, Truck do. 100 do. Draft do, 500 do. Tie up do, 50 doz. Halter do, 1000 yards Fence do, 25 Grind Stones on Rollers

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street. Boston.

ESSAY ON GUANO.

For sale at Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Teschemacher's Essay on Guano,—describing its properties and the best methods of its application in Agriculture and Horticulture, with the value of importations from different localities; founded on actual analyses, and on personal experiments upon numerous kinds of trees, vegetables, flowers, &c. Price 25 cents. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, Nov. 4.

BOUSSINGAULT'S RURAL ECONOMY.

Boussingault's Rural Economy; Price $1,75. Downing's Book of Fruits; price $1,75. Stable Keeper's Companion; price $1,00. Also, a general assortment of *AGRICULTURAL WORKS.*

Boston, Sept, 10, 1845 JOS. BRECK & CO.

MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM EAGLE PLOWS.

The subscribers have for sale at their extensive Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 & 52 N. Market street, *MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM IMPROVED EAGLE PLOWS.*

Mr. Martin's Plows combine new and important improvements adapting them to the different qualities of soil and the various modes and systems of culture. His Eagle Plows, as improved, are much longer, the mouldboard, landside and point, or share, all extended without any addition to the width or heel in its work; thus adapting this Plow to the more perfect turning under of the greensward, and inverting of the furrow-slice, so desirable in greensward plowing. The principle of these Plows is such, from where the furrow-slice is received upon the mouldboard to where it leaves it, that it enables the Plow to take up the furrow-slice with the greatest possible ease, bearing equally and lightly over the whole surface of the mouldboard, turning it over with the least possible bending or twisting, and preserving it flat, smooth and unbroken, laying the furrow-slices closely and compactly side by side, and creating but slight friction upon the face of the mouldboard in passing through the soil. Thus the Plow requires but very little power of draft beyond what is necessary to cut out the furrow-slice.

In testing the quality of Plows, the power by which it is moved, the ease with which it is handled, and the manner in which it completes the work, are three important points, all of which are wisely, accurately and judiciously preserved in these improved Plows.

The character of these Plows for ease of draft and management, and the excellence of their work, though well established in the minds of the farming community, were most fully and satisfactorily exhibited to the public at the grand trial of Plows by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, at Worcester, October 9th, 1844, whose able and impartial committee awarded the highest premium of $50 to B. Martin, for the best Plow, for doing the best work with the least draft, in a trial open to the whole Union—this Plow running in its natural course, and keeping its true position, without any effort of the plowman, and turning a furrow 12 inches wide and 6 inches deep, with a much less draft than any other Plow on the ground.

These Plows, as improved, are considered to be nearest to perfection of any implements of the kind in this country, as well in respect to material and workmanship, as in form of construction.

At the late Cattle-Show and Plowing-Match of the Worcester County Agricultural Society, in the heart of that most valuable agricultural county, B. Martin's Plow received the highest and most enthusiastic commendation from intelligent and experienced practical farmers, who know and are the most competent judges.

His castings are of a superior kind, the workmanship not inferior to any other Plows in this country, and his timber being the very best of white oak; and every farmer knows that good timber in his Plows is of the utmost importance—all of which in fact renders B. Martin's Plow the very article every farmer wants. The high character of these Plows is abundantly sustained by a continued and extended patronage, which the manufacturer hopes by his efforts and exertions to retain. Being himself an experienced Plow-Maker, he will not spare any exertions in order to render his Plows a superior article.

Gentlemen are requested to call and examine these Plows before they purchase. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, March 24.

CORN SHELLER.

A Corn sheller is one of the most convenient and labor saving implements that the practical farmer has in use. Various machines for this purpose have been invented. It can be used in all cases for large or small sized ears. It is very simple in its construction, and durable in its operation, and no way liable to get out of order; one man can work it to good advantage, though a man to turn, and a boy to feed it, works it much better than one alone. They are so light and portable, as to be easily removed from place to place, and one machine will serve for several families or even the inhabitants of a small town.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street.

JOS. BRECK & CO.

FARMERS' ALMANACK FOR 1846.

For sale at the N. E. Farmer Office, Thomas's Almanac for 1846, by the hundred or dozen.

Boston, Nov. 4.

MISCELLANEOUS.

John Winthrop, first Governor of Massachusetts.—"Once," says Mather, "it was observable, that when he had distributed the last handful of the meal in the barrel unto a poor man distressed by the wolf at the door, at that instant they spied a ship arrived at the harbour's mouth, laden with provisions for them all. Yea, the Governor sometimes made his own private purse to be publick; not by sucking into it, but by squeezing out of it; for when the publick treasure had nothing in it, he did himself defray the charges of the public. And having learned that lesson of our Lord, that it is better to give than to receive, he did, at the General Court, when he was a third time chosen Governor, make a speech unto this purpose—That he had received gratuities from divers towns, which he accepted with much comfort and content, and he had likewise received civilities from particular persons, which he could not refuse without incivility in himself; nevertheless, he took them with a trembling heart, in regard of God's word, and conscious of his own infirmities; and therefore he desired them that they would not hereafter take it ill if he refused such presents for the time to come. 'T was his custom, also, to send some of his family upon errands, unto the houses of the poor, about their meal time, on purpose to spy whether they wanted; and if it were found that they wanted, he would make that the opportunity of sending supplies unto them. And there was one passage of his charity that was perhaps a little unusual: in a hard and very long winter, when wood was very scarce at Boston, a man gave him private information that a needy person in the neighborhood stole wood from his pile; whereupon the Governor, in seeming anger, did reply—'Does he so? I'll take a course with him; so call the man to me. I'll warrant you I'll cure him of stealing.' When the man came, the Governor considering that if he had stolen, it was more out of necessity than disposition, said unto him, 'Friend, it is a severe winter, and I doubt not you are but meanly provided for wood; wherefore I would have you supply yourself at my wood-pile till this season be over.' And he then merrily asked his friends whether he had not effectually cured this man of stealing his wood."

Some birds have a great deal of humor in them, particularly the raven. One that belonged to me was the most mischievous and amusing creature I ever met with. He would get into the flower-garden, go to the beds where the gardener had sowed a great variety of seeds, and placed sticks in the ground with labels, and amuse himself with pulling up every stick, and laying them in heaps of ten or twelve in the path. This used to irritate the old gardener very much, who would drive him away. The raven knew that he ought not to do it, or he would not have done it. He would soon return to his mischief, and when the gardener—(the old man could not run very fast)—would again attempt to drive him away, the raven would keep just clear of the rake or hoe in his hand, dancing before him, and singing as plain as a raven could —"Tol de rol de rol! tol de rol de rol!"—accompanied with all kinds of mimicking gestures.—*New Monthly Mag.*

A gentleman travelling in Ireland a short time since, was desirous of seeing some of the saintly relics belonging to a convent, and on being shown by a priest two apparently very old skulls, one that of a child, and the other seemingly of a grown person, asked to whom they belonged, when the priest replied, that the larger one was that of St. Patrick, and the smaller one that of the same saint, when a boy.

"My dear, what shall we name our baby?" said Mr Smith to Mrs Smith, the other day.

"Why, husband, I've settled on Peter."

"Peter? Good Lord! I never knew a man with the simple name of Peter who could earn his salt."

"Well, then, we 'll call him *Salt Peter.*"

"William," said a carpenter to his apprentice, "I 'm going away today, and while I 'm gone, I want you to grind all the tools."

"Yes, sir."

The carpenter came home at night, and said, "William, have you ground all the tools right sharp?"

"All but the *hand-saw*, sir; I could n't get *quite* all the gaps out of that."

"Will you be so kind as to deposit that coin in my pawket," said a dandy, who had bought a cent cigar and received his change in pennies; "those coppaws will scent my fingaws."

A young miss, having accepted the offer of a youth to gallant her home, and afterwards fearing that jokes might be cracked at her expense, if the fact should become known to her acquaintances, dismissed him about half way, enjoining secrecy. "Do n't be afraid," he replied, "of my saying any thing about it, for I feel as much ashamed of it as you do."

HOWARD'S PREMIUM SUBSOIL PLOWS.

The subsoil Plow is unquestionably the most importan agricultural implement of modern invention. It is considered by the best informed practical farmers of Great Britain and our own country, as an indispensable article in the most profitable husbandry. Says that eminently skilful and intelligent agriculturist, Mr. Phinney, of Lexington: "such is the estimate in which I hold this important implement, that I should consider it a great piece of improvidence to put in a crop without first subsoiling the ground." The subsoil Plows manufactured by Mr. Howard, are of two sizes—the smaller obtained the highest premium offered by the State Agricultural Society at its late exhibition at Worcester. The committee to award the premium on Subsoil Plows, in their report say:—"The committee were pleased with the neatness and firmness of structure of these Plows—characteristics which have distinguished all the Plows of Mr. Howard that have come within their observation. *Utility* and not *show*, are their peculiar features. * * They were astonished to find with what ease and perfection the hard pan could be stirred, and broken to the depth and width of 8 or 9 inches, for such was the operation of the medium size Plows, with a power not exceeding that ordinarily required for moving a surface Plow at the same depth—and they found the Plow might be guided with less labor ahd fatigue than the surface Plow. * * They confidently recommend the subsoil Plow to the attention of the farmers of the Commonwealth."

The improvement in the length of the handles of Mr. Howard's Plows, suggested by the committee, has been made—and the undersigned are now prepared to furnish these invaluable implements wholesale and retail.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 & 52, North Market Street, Boston.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co. No. 51 North Market street.

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.
2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.
3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.
4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, a the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

Remittances, *not exceeding ten dollars*, at any *one time*, may be made as follows:—A subscriber owes us two or eight dollars, which he wishes to remit us. He will pay this amount to the Post Master *in his own town*, and take his *receipt* for it, as money paid him on *our* account. He will then send that *receipt*, enclosed in a letter, *to us*. We pass it to the Post Master in Boston, and get the money for it. This arrangement does away with nearly the whole risk of making remittance, and puts every subscriber in possession of "suitable funds" for that purpose.

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